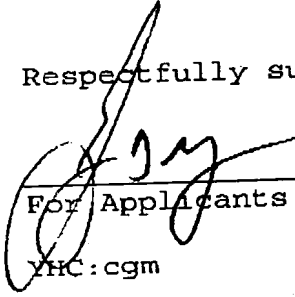


Remarks:

The term "needle-shaped" used in claims 36 and 50 in the amendment filed on December 6, 2002 is an obvious error and should be replaced with the term "needle-punched non-woven". A needle-punched non-woven element is an element formed from a non-woven which is worked on with needles in order to consolidate the non-woven.

Please charge any fees which might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner and Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,


For Applicants

YHC:cgm

Gregory L. Mayback
Reg. No. 40,719

December 20, 2002

Lerner and Greenberg, P.A.
Post Office Box 2480
Hollywood, FL 33022-2480
Tel: (954) 925-1100
Fax: (954) 925-1101

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Applic. No.: 09/351,608

Marked-Up Version of the Amended Claims:

Claim 36 (twice amended). The floor covering according to claim 50, wherein said [needle-shaped] needle-punched non-woven elements have a basis weight between 200 and 1000 gr/m².

Claim 50 (twice amended). The floor covering according to claim 32, wherein said elements are [needle-shaped] needle-punched non-woven elements formed from a non-woven.